

Appl. No. : 09/901,764  
Filed : July 10, 2001

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A constriction device that constricts and collapses body organ tissue comprising an implantable ~~elongated~~ elongate sleeve, the sleeve including opposed opened open ends and being formed from expandable material so as to be deployed on a body organ when in an expanded condition, and to constrict and collapse the tissue of the body organ therein and remain associated with the body when released from the expanded condition, at least a portion of the sleeve being visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

2. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve further includes an outer surface and a coating of X ray opaque material on the outer surface to form the portion of the sleeve visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

3. [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the sleeve has a longitudinal dimension between the opposed opened ends and wherein the coating of X ray opaque material comprises strips of X ray opaque material along the longitudinal dimension of the sleeve.

4. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve includes a side wall extending between the opposed opened ends and X ray opaque material embedded in the side wall to form the portion of the sleeve visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

5. [Original] The device of claim 4 wherein the side wall defines a longitudinal dimension of the sleeve, and wherein the X ray opaque material comprises strips of X ray opaque material embedded in the side wall along the longitudinal dimension of the sleeve.

6. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve further includes an inner surface and X ray opaque material on the inner surface to form the portion of the sleeve visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

7. [Original] The device of claim 6 wherein the sleeve has a longitudinal dimension between the opposed opened ends and wherein the X ray opaque material comprises strips of X ray opaque material along the longitudinal dimension of the sleeve.

8. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the sleeve includes a plurality of X ray opaque elements to form the portion of the sleeve visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

9. [Original] The device of claim 8 wherein the X ray opaque elements are adjacent to one of the opposed openings.

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10. [Original] The device of claim 8 wherein the X ray opaque elements are arranged in a side-by-side relation.

11. [Original] The device of claim 8 wherein the sleeve includes an inner surface and wherein the X ray opaque elements are on the inner surface of the sleeve.

12. [Original] The device of claim 11 wherein the X ray opaque elements are adhered to the inner surface of the sleeve.

13. [Original] The device of claim 11 wherein the X ray opaque elements are adjacent to one of the opposed openings.

14. [Currently Amended] A constriction device that constricts body organ tissue, the device comprising:

implantable sleeve means for deployment on a body organ when in an expanded condition, and for constricting and collapsing the body organ tissue of the body organ therein and remaining associated with the body when released from the expanded condition; ~~and deployment on a body organ when in an expanded condition, and for constricting the tissue of the body organ therein and remaining associated with the body when released from the expanded condition;~~ and

means for rendering the device visible under X ray fluoroscopy.

15. [Canceled]

16. [Currently Amended] A method of confirming a suppression of leakage from a body tissue, the method including comprising the steps of:

providing a sleeve formed from an expandable material and having opposed open opened ends, the sleeve being dimensioned for constricting the body tissue to suppress leakage flow of at least one of body fluid and air through the body tissue, and including an X ray opaque material visible under X ray fluoroscopy;

drawing the body tissue into the sleeve; and

constricting and collapsing to contain, confine and constrict the body tissue within the sleeve; and

~~confirming the continued constriction of the body tissue by fluoroscopically visualizing the X ray opaque material.~~

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17. (New) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of resecting a portion of the body tissue by severing the sleeve between its opposed open ends after the drawing the body tissue into the sleeve step.

18. (New) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of confirming the collapse of the body tissue by fluoroscopically visualizing the X ray opaque material.

19. (New) A body organ flow arrestor, comprising a resilient elongate hollow sleeve having opposed open ends and wherein the sleeve is expandable to an expanded configuration, the sleeve being configured to be applied to a portion of a body organ when in the expanded configuration, and to resiliently return to a nonexpanded configuration after application to the body organ portion thus collapsing the body organ portion such that substantially no flow of air or fluid passes through the body organ portion and wherein at least a portion of the body organ flow arrestor is visible through an external imaging technique.

20. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 19, wherein the external imaging technique is X ray fluoroscopy.

21. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 19, further being configured to be severable intermediate its opposed ends, thereby permitting resection of the body organ portion contained therein.

22. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 19, further comprising a radiopaque material carried by the sleeve.

23. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 22, wherein the radiopaque material is embedded within the sleeve.

24. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 23, wherein the radiopaque material comprises spheres of an x-ray absorbing material.

25. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 24, wherein the spheres protrude inwardly into the sleeve.

26. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 22, wherein the radiopaque material comprises strips of an x-ray absorbing material.

27. (New) The body organ flow arrestor of Claim 19, wherein the sleeve is sized and configured to be applied to a portion of a lung.

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28. (New) A method of suppressing fluid flow through a portion of a body organ, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a resilient elongate hollow sleeve, the sleeve having at least a portion thereof configured to be viewable through an external imaging technique;

expanding the sleeve to an expanded configuration;

drawing a portion of the body organ into the expanded sleeve;

releasing the sleeve from its expanded configuration such that the sleeve collapses the portion of the body organ disposed therein.

29. The method of Claim 28, further comprising the step of confirming that there is substantially no fluid flow through the portion of the body organ disposed within the sleeve.

30. The method of Claim 28, further comprising the step of verifying the placement of the sleeve through X ray fluoroscopy.

31. The method of Claim 28, further comprising the step of resecting a portion of the body organ by severing the sleeve and the body organ disposed therein.

32. The method of Claim 28, wherein the drawing a portion of the body organ in the expanded sleeve step is performed with vacuum assistance.